



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

March 18, 2025

Closed Session 6:00 p.m. / Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.



Video  
Recording

**Board Members Present:** Dr. Rommel Bal, President; Ms. Sherry Alexander, Vice-President; Mrs. Victoria Lenderman; Mr. Joe Nava; Mr. Courtney Porter; and Mr. Jeff Stroh

**Board Member Absent:** Mrs. Susan Macfarlane, Clerk

**Administrative Staff:** Mr. Neil Young, Superintendent; Dr. David Horton, Associate Superintendent; Mrs. Erin Church, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel; Mrs. April Juarez, Executive Director, Fiscal Services; and Mrs. Edith Holbert, Executive Director, Operations

**Meeting Recorder:** Mrs. Michelle Armstrong, Executive Assistant to the Board of Education

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the James Areida Education Support Center, 1305 East Vine Street, Lodi, CA, and broadcast on YouTube.

### **Public Comment on Closed Session Items**

No comments were presented.

### **Adjourn to Closed Session**

The Board adjourned to Closed Session.

### **Reconvene Open Session**

The meeting reconvened at 7:03 p.m. Attendance was recorded, and President Bal led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Closed Session**

President Bal reported the following action was taken in Closed Session:

#### **Conference with Legal Counsel:**

Mr. Nava moved, Ms. Alexander seconded, and the Board voted to approve claim #650811, as follows:

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Ayes:    | Alexander; Bal; Lenderman; Nava; Porter; Stroh |
| Noes:    | none   |
| Abstain: | none   |
| Absent:  | Macfarlane                                     |

Motion carried

#### **Personnel Matters:**

Mr. Porter moved, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted to approve Edward Gehrke as Elementary Principal, effective 2025/2026 school year, location to be determined, as follows:

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Ayes:    | Alexander; Bal; Lenderman; Nava; Porter; Stroh |
| Noes:    | none   |
| Abstain: | none   |
| Absent:  | Macfarlane                                     |

Motion carried

Mr. Porter moved, Ms. Alexander seconded, and the Board voted to approve Tim Shepherd as Principal Alternative Program at Turner Academy, effective 2025/2026 school year, as follows:

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| Ayes:    | Alexander; Bal; Lenderman; Nava; Porter; Stroh |
| Noes:    | none   |
| Abstain: | none   |
| Absent:  | Macfarlane                                     |

Motion carried

## **Superintendent's Report**

No report was given.

## **Public Comments on Consent Agenda A**

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA), commented on Item A-1.

Rodrigo Contreras, President, California School Employees Association (CSEA), Lodi Chapter #77, commented on Items A-14 and A-15.

## **Consent Agenda A, Routine Business**

Superintendent Young pulled Item A-16.

- Item A-1 Contracts List (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-2 Warrant Report (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-3 Changes to the Adopted Budget (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-4 Purchase Order Detail Report - February 2025, FY 24/25 (Mrs. Juarez)
- Item A-5 Approval of Certificated and Classified Personnel Matters (Mrs. Church)
- Item A-6 Notice of Completion for Public Works Projects under the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act (CUPCCAA) (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-7 Resolution 2025-24 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the Lincoln Technical Academy Portable Project No. 6391-6912-620-29 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-8 Resolution 2025-25 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the Sutherland Head Start Portable Project No. 5870-6123-300-38 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-9 Resolution 2025-26 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the Morada Middle School and Plaza Robles High School Fire Alarm Project No. 0895-8095-460-39 and Project No.0896-8096-580-40 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-10 Resolution 2025-30 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Larson Elementary Portable Classrooms Project No. 0825-8425-205-31 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-11 Resolution 2025-32 Award of Contract for Network Switch Basic Maintenance (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-12 Resolution 2025-33 Award of Contract and Authorization to Begin Work for the Parklane Elementary School Restrooms Project No. 0825-8425-280-25 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-13 Resolution 2025-34 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the JAESC Fire Sprinkler in the Data Center-Server Room, Project No. 0825-8425-800-40 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-14 Resolution 2025-36 Approval of Landscape Architect for Lodi High School Ball Fields Project No. 0955-8255-560-41 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-15 Resolution 2025-37 Authorization to Advertise and Solicit Bids for the Lodi High School Ball Fields Project No. 0955-8255-560-41 (Mrs. Holbert)
- Item A-17 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 4, 2025 (Mr. Young)
- Item A-18 Minutes of the Study Session Meeting of March 11, 2025 (Mr. Young)

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Porter seconded, and the Board voted to approve Consent Agenda A, Routine Business, as amended, as follows:

Ayes: Alexander; Bal; Nava; Porter; Stroh  
Noes: Lenderman  
Abstain: none  
Absent: Macfarlane Motion carried

### **Individual Action on Items Pulled from Consent Agenda A – Routine Business**

#### **Item A-16 Proposed Revisions to Board Policies and Rules: BP 6164.4 Identification and Evaluation of Individuals for Special Education, BR 6164.4 Identification and Evaluations of Individuals for Special Education, BP 6164.5 Student Success Teams, BR 6164.5 Student Success Teams**

Superintendent Young pulled Item A-16 to return to a future Board meeting.

### **Public Comments on Consent Agenda B**

No comments were received for Consent Agenda B.

### **Consent Agenda B – Student Discipline Cases**

Item B-1 Expulsion: Student # 24/25-7-22  
Item B-2 Expulsion: Student # 24/25-7-23  
Item B-3 Expulsion: Student # 24/25-10-24

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Consent Agenda B, Student Discipline Cases, as presented, as follows:

Ayes: Alexander; Bal; Lenderman; Nava; Porter; Stroh  
Noes: none  
Abstain: none  
Absent: Macfarlane Motion carried

### **Public Comments on Other Action Item**

Cris Beach, Cafeteria Manager, Clairmont Elementary School

Rodrigo Contreras, President, California School Employees Association (CSEA), Lodi Chapter #77

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association

### **Other Action Item**

#### **Item OAI-1 Nutrition Services Proposal**

Mrs. Holbert presented the Nutrition Services Proposal for Board review and approval.

Mr. Nava moved, Mr. Stroh seconded, and the Board voted unanimously to approve Item OAI-1 Nutrition Services Proposal, as follows:

Ayes: Alexander; Bal; Lenderman; Nava; Porter; Stroh  
Noes: none  
Abstain: none  
Absent: Macfarlane Motion carried

### **Public Comments on Reports**

Public Comments made on Board Policy and Rule 4115:

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association (LEA)

Christopher Anderson, Community Member

Chris Munger, Community Member

Michelle Orgon, Teacher, Needham Elementary School  
Rob Reynolds, Parent  
Kelly Hansston, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary School

Superintendent Young clarified that the current Board Policy 4115 is out of compliance with Ed Code 44662 and the proposed new language does not change the negotiated evaluation process for teachers.

## **Reports**

### **Proposed New Board Policies: 7131 Relations with Local Agencies and 7213 School Facilities Improvement Districts**

Mrs. Holbert presented the proposed new Board Policies for Board review.

Mrs. Lenderman spoke about the importance of Board Policy 7213 and thanked Mrs. Holbert for bring it to Board.

### **Proposed Revisions to Board Policies and Rules: BP and Rule 4030 Nondiscrimination in Employment; BP 4111 4211 4311 Recruitment and Selection; BP and Rule 4115 Evaluation/Supervision**

Mrs. Church presented the proposed revisions to the Board Policies and Rules for Boards review.

Mrs. Lenderman commented on Policy & Rule 4115 and requested revision to the proposed changes.

Mr. Porter asked why the changes are being made to Policy 4115, stating he does not agree with the proposed revisions.

Mr. Stroh requested Policy 4115 be worded more carefully.

Ms. Alexander spoke about her dislike of the proposed changes and requested acronyms to be spelled out when used in a policy or rule.

## **Board Member Advisory Reports**

No reports were given.

## **Comments from the Public**

Kelly Hansston, Teacher, Julia Morgan Elementary School, spoke about attending a professional development training and about the cost-of-living adjustment, requesting it to be retroactive for teachers.

Victor Ward, Chief Operating Officer, Cruz Media, spoke about using Proposition 28 funds for a digital video yearbook.

Bill Yates, Teacher, Sutherland Elementary School, spoke about the recent memorandum of understanding for special education, stating it's a good start but still lacks what is needed.

## **Comments from Employee Group Representatives**

Lisa Lennon-Wilkins, President, Lodi Education Association, spoke about teachers being exhausted by student discipline and suggested the district make parenting classes available.

Rodrigo Contreras, President, California School Employees Association (CSEA), Lodi Chapter #77, reported the positive progression in negotiations and stated that CSEA supports teachers.

**Comments from Board Members**

Mr. Nava spoke about Heath Flora, Assembly Member, District 9, who nominated Susan Petersen, Director of Education at Lodi USD, as Woman of the Year.

Mrs. Lenderman spoke about data driven problem solving and applying that perspective to Lodi USD.

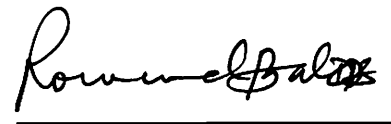
Ms. Alexander spoke about her hope for teachers to enjoy a restful spring break.

Mr. Stroh spoke about his enjoyment of reading in classrooms for Read Across America.

Dr. Bal thanked the public and stated she values their comments and voiced her appreciation to staff.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

  
Clerk of the Board  
President of the Board